REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of the present application as amended. Claims 1-40 remain in the application. Claim 34 is amended.

Applicants have noticed that the wrong set of claims was accidentally inserted into the Response to the First Office Action. However, since the claims were marked "unchanged" the Examiner examined the proper set of claims – the claims as originally filed. The current set of claims are amended from the claims as originally filed, disregarding the errors made in the previous Response. Applicants apologize for this error.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-6, 15, 17-20, 29-31, and 34-38 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,497,339 to Bernard ("Bernard"). Bernard teaches a portable apparatus for providing multiple integrated communication media. Bernard's system includes a PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) and a communication device that is connected to the PDA (Figure 2, and column 3, lines 10-23). As can be seen in Figure 4 of Bernard, the functionalities are all provided by the communications device, which is coupled to the PDA. The communications device provides phone, GPS and similar capabilities. The interface with the PDA is defined as follows by Bernard:

As discussed above, the PDA 102 executes software that allows the PDA 102 to interface with and control the communication device 100. This software sends commands to the microcontroller 104 when the microcontroller 104 is in the command mode, and it sends data to the on-line communication circuit 114, 120, 124, 126 when the microcontroller 104 is in the monitor mode. The format and the content of the data

sent to the different communication circuits 114, 120, 124, 126 complies with the requirements of the particular communication circuits 114, 120, 124, 126. For example, the data sent of the phone modem 114 complies with the standard Hayes ® format for modems. As described above, the communication software for the PDA 102 is uploaded to the PDA 102 from the ROM 134, and the software extends the capabilities of the PDA.

(Bernard, column 15, lines 47-57, emphasis added). Thus, Bernard specifically teaches away from using the PDA's native format to interface with communications devices. Rather, Bernard teaches that special software is uploaded to the PDA to permit the PDA to send data complying with the requirements of the communications devices with which it interfaces.

Furthermore, Bernard does not teach or suggest receiving semi-structured data from a PDA. The portions of Bernard referenced by the Examiner (column 1, lines 39-51 and column 4, lines 45-47) simply note that the communications device of Bernard interfaces with a PDA, but does not teach or suggest the receipt of semi-structured data.

Additionally, Bernard does not teach or suggest parsing the semi-structured data to identify a type of the semi-structured data. The Examiner refers to column 18, lines 19-20 and 39-40. However, the noted portions of Bernard specifically state, "Each data packet also contains an address identifying the destination of the data packet. *The destination can be any of the communication circuits 114, 120, 124, 126.*" And "*The communication circuits 114, 120, 124, 126 and devices connected to the external serial port 110 also generate data packets for transmission to one or more of the applications*

702, 704, 706. [Applications are part of PDA 102B, see column 17, lines 33-39]. Each

of the data packets identifies the type of data contained therein." Note, however, that

the two data packets referred to are NOT the same packet. Rather, the first packet

refers to data sent by the PDA to the communications devices, and the second packet

refers to data packets sent by the communications devices to the PDA, as can be seen

in the extended quotes above. Therefore, Applicants respectfully suggest that Bernard

does not teach or suggest parsing semi-structured data to identify the type of data.

Applicants respectfully note that the Examiner has used the term

communications device to refer to the destination of data sent by the PDA, as well as

the originator of PDA data. Bernard specifically describes a "communications module"

which is physically attached to a PDA. This communications module is used to

communicate with third parties (via packet data, phone, GPS, etc.) However, the

Examiner appears to interchangeably consider the PDA-communications module as a

single unit to describe the telephonic communication, and to consider the data

exchange between the PDA and the communications module as equivalent to the data

exchange of the present invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated by

Bernard. Specifically, claim 1 recites:

> 1. A method of interfacing with a communication station, the
> method comprising:
> receiving semi-structured data from a personal digital assistant
> (PDA) in a format native to the PDA;
> parsing the semi-structured data to identify a type of the semi-
> structured data;
> sending a job to a destination indicated by the semi-structured
> data, if the semi-structured data is destination data.

(Claim 1). As noted above, Bernard specifically teaches away from "receiving semi-structured data from a PDA in a format native to the PDA." Bernard teaches that the PDA communicates with the devices in the communications circuit in the particular format for the circuit. Therefore, claim 1, and claims 2-14 which depend on it, are not anticipated by Bernard.

Claim 15 recites:

> 15. An apparatus for sending data from a communication station, the apparatus comprising:
> a communication interface to receive semi-structured data from a personal digital assistant (PDA) in a format native to the PDA;
> a parser to parse the semi-structured data and to identify a type of the semi-structured data;
> sending logic to send appropriate data to a destination indicated by the structured data.

(Claim 15). As noted above, Bernard specifically teaches away from "a communications interface to receive semi-structured data from a PDA in a format native to the PDA." Bernard teaches that the PDA communicates with the devices in the communications circuit using the particular format for the circuit. Therefore, claim 15, and claims 16-29, which depend on it, are not anticipated by Bernard.

Similarly, claim 30 recites:

> 30. A method of sending data from a communication station, the method comprising:
> receiving semi-structured data from a personal digital assistant (PDA) in a format native to the PDA;
> parsing the semi-structured data to identify a type of the semi-structured data;
> acting on data in the manner indicated by the semi-structured data and a user; and
> returning a confirmation receipt to the PDA in a format native to the PDA, the confirmation receipt including a unique identification (ID).

(Claim 30). As noted above, Bernard specifically teaches away from "receiving semi-structured data from a PDA in a format native to the PDA." Bernard teaches that the PDA communicates with the devices in the communications circuit using the particular format for the circuit. Therefore, claim 30, and claims 31-33, which depend on it, are not anticipated by Bernard.

Similarly, claim 34 recites:

34.   A system comprising:
a personal digital assistant (PDA);
a communications appliance coupled to a network; and
a memory for storing a unique job identification (job ID) for each job handled by the communications appliance;
the communications appliance comprising:
a communication interface to receive semi-structured data from the PDA;
a parser to parse the semi-structured data and to identify a type of the semi-structured data;
a sending logic for handing data based on the semi-structured data received from the PDA; and
the communication interface for returning the job ID to the PDA.

(Claim 34). As noted above Bernard does not teach or suggest parsing a semi-structured data to identify a type of semi-structured data. Therefore, claim 34, and claims 35-40, which depend on it, are not anticipated by Bernard.

The Examiner further rejected claims 4, 7-14, 21-28, and 39-40 over 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernard in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,704,029 to Wright Jr. ("Wright"). Wright teaches a system and method for completing an electronic form. A scripting function is described to enable automatic filling, validation, etc. A PDA may be used to respond to statements.

Applicants respectfully submit that Bernard and Wright cannot be logically combined. Bernard discusses a communications system to be attached to a PDA for

communicating GPS, telephonic, or packet data. Wright discusses a method of electronic form-filling on a PDA. There is no motivation <u>within the references themselves</u> to combine Bernard and Wright. The Examiner suggest that because Wright's system has a user prompt, it would provide an advantage to incorporate it into Bernard. However, Applicants fail to see the use of a user prompt in Bernard, since Bernard is concerned with the operation of a PDA with a communications device, and the PDA and communications device use the communications-device specific data format. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are not obvious over a combination of Bernard and Wright.

Furthermore, even in combination, Bernard and Wright do not make the present invention obvious. Claims 4 and 7-14 depend on claim 1, and incorporate its limitations. Claim 1 recites:

> 1.   A method of interfacing with a communication station, the method comprising:
> receiving semi-structured data from a personal digital assistant (PDA) in a format native to the PDA;
> parsing the semi-structured data to identify a type of the semi-structured data;
> sending a job to a destination indicated by the semi-structured data, if the semi-structured data is destination data.

(Claim 1). As noted above, Bernard specifically teaches away from "receiving semi-structured data from a PDA in a format native to the PDA." Wright does not remedy this shortcoming of Bernard. Therefore, claims 4 and 7-14 are not obvious over the combination of Bernard and Wright.

Claims 21-28 depend on claim 15, and incorporate its limitations. Claim 15 recites:

15.   An apparatus for sending data from a communication station, the apparatus comprising:
a communication interface to receive semi-structured data from a personal digital assistant (PDA) in a format native to the PDA;
a parser to parse the semi-structured data and to identify a type of the semi-structured data;
sending logic to send appropriate data to a destination indicated by the structured data.

(Claim 15). As noted above, Bernard specifically teaches away from "a communications interface to receive semi-structured data from a PDA in a format native to the PDA." Wright does not remedy this shortcoming of Bernard. Therefore, claims 21-28 are not obvious over the combination of Bernard and Wright.

Claims 39-40 depend on claim 34 and incorporate its limitations. Claim 34 recites:

34.   A system comprising:
a personal digital assistant (PDA);
a communications appliance coupled to a network; and
a memory for storing a unique job identification (job ID) for each job handled by the communications appliance;
the communications appliance comprising:
a communication interface to receive semi-structured data from the PDA;
a parser to parse the semi-structured data and to identify a type of the semi-structured data;
a sending logic for handing data based on the semi-structured data received from the PDA; and
the communication interface for returning the job ID to the PDA.

(Claim 34). As noted above Bernard does not teach or suggest parsing a semi-structured data to identify a type of semi-structured data. Wright does not remedy this shortcoming of Bernard. Therefore, claims 39-40 are not obvious over the combination of Bernard and Wright.

Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments and discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome. Accordingly the present and amended claims should be found to be in condition for allowance.
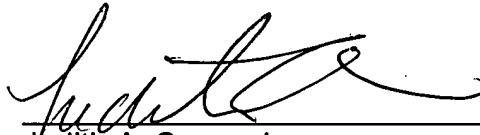
If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Judith A. Szepesi at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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